

H. HOW VEHICLES COUNT TOWARD THE RESOURCE LIMIT**WAC 388-470-0070 How vehicles are counted toward the resource limit for cash assistance and TANF/SFA-related medical.**

- (1) A vehicle is any device for carrying persons and objects by land, water, or air.
- (2) The entire value of a licensed vehicle needed to transport a physically disabled assistance unit member is excluded.
- (3) The equity value of one vehicle up to five thousand dollars is excluded when the vehicle is used by the assistance unit or household as a means of transportation. Each separate medical assistance unit is allowed this exclusion.

CLARIFYING INFORMATION

For TANF/SFA, GA, and TANF/SFA-related medical, a motor home is not considered a vehicle. See **WAC 388-470-0045**, Resources that are counted toward the resource limits for cash, food assistance, and TANF/SFA-related medical programs.

WAC 388-470-0075 How vehicles are counted for food assistance.

- (1) The entire value of a licensed vehicle even during periods of temporary unemployment is excluded if the vehicle is:
 - (a) Used over fifty percent of the time for income-producing purposes. An excluded vehicle used by a self-employed farmer or fisher retains its exclusion for one year from the date the household member ends this self-employment.
 - (b) Used to produce income annually that is consistent with its fair market value (FMV).
 - (c) Necessary for long-distance travel that is essential to the employment of an assistance unit member whose resources are considered available to the assistance unit. Vehicles needed for daily commuting are not

excluded under this provision.

- (d) Necessary for hunting or fishing to support the household.
 - (e) Used as the assistance unit's home.
 - (f) Used to carry fuel for heating or water for home use when this is the primary source of fuel or water for the assistance unit.
 - (g) Needed to transport a physically disabled household member.
- (2) The FMV in excess of four thousand six hundred fifty dollars is counted toward the assistance unit's resource limit for the following licensed vehicles if not excluded in subsection (1) above:
- (a) One per assistance unit regardless of use;
 - (b) Used for transportation to and from work, training, or education; or
 - (c) Used for seeking employment.
- (3) For all other licensed vehicles, the larger value of the following is counted toward the assistance unit's resource limit:
- (a) FMV in excess of four thousand six hundred fifty dollars; or
 - (b) Equity value.
- (4) Unlicensed vehicles driven by tribal members on the reservation are treated like a licensed vehicle.
- (5) For unlicensed vehicles the equity value is counted towards the assistance unit's resource limit unless the vehicle is:
- (a) Used to produce income annually that is consistent with its FMV even if used on a seasonal basis; or
 - (b) Work-related equipment necessary for employment or self-employment of an assistance unit member.

CLARIFYING INFORMATION**Food Assistance Exclusion for Transporting Physically Disabled**

1. A person no longer qualified for the exclusion when the disability ends.
2. One vehicle can be exempted for each physically disabled person.

WORKER RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Do not count leased vehicles toward an assistance unit=s resource limit.
2. Use the wholesale value of the vehicle to determine the fair market value. If the reference source does not use the term “wholesale value”, use the value that is comparable, such as loan value or trade-in value.
3. Use the National Automobile Dealers Association (N.A.D.A.) Official Used Car Guide to determine value by:
 - a. Using the loan value; and
 - b. Using the high mileage charts to decrease the value when the client knows the number of miles the car has been driven.
4. Use the loan value listed in the Kelley Bluebook R.V. Guide to determine value of recreational vehicles.
5. Do not add options or use the low mileage chart to increase the value of the vehicle.
6. **Internet Sites**
 - a. The following Internet sites are the **only** sites that can be used to determine the value of a vehicle:
 - (1) Car Prices - <http://www.carprices.com>
 - (2) Auto Pricing - <http://www.autopricing.com>

- (3) Intellichoice - <http://www.intellichoice.com>
 - (4) Edmund's - <http://www.edmunds.com/edweb/used>
 - (5) Kelley Blue Book - <http://www.kbb.com>
- b. Kelley Blue Book is acceptable even though it includes the most commonly selected options in the base price. It also requires you to enter the mileage before calculating the value of the vehicle. Enter the greater of the vehicle's actual mileage or 12,000 miles per year.
 - c. Do **not** use the NADA Internet site to determine the value of a vehicle. The values provided by this site are not approved by FNS.
7. If the owner of the vehicle determines the value is too high because of the condition of the vehicle, the person can get an estimate from a knowledgeable source such as a used car dealership.